

# MANY CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS FOR WASHINGTON IN PROSPECT; ART GALLERY, SCIENCE BUILDING AND OTHER GIFTS IN SIGHT

## MEMORIALS ALSO AMONG ADDITIONS PROMISED IN 1923

Freer Gallery, Chamber of Commerce, Washington Auditorium, Academy of Science Headquarters, Ericsson, Titanic and Meade Memorials All Among Betterments For City in Near Future—Several Near Completion.

By LEE SOMERS.

THIS whole business of civic improvement is largely relative. In Housville, Ind., for instance, they are still talking about the new public library they put up in 1894, and the tinkering that was done on the steeple of the Methodist Church in 1908. If Hez Harkins paints his fence, that's a big step toward a bigger, busier and better Housville in 1923.

As one steps out into larger towns—like Defiance, Ohio, and Butte, Montana—one expects more. And in the big towns like New York they are eternally blasting out twenty-story buildings to make room for buildings forty stories high. You go past a vacant lot in the morning; in the evening they're throwing out tenants because they won't pay the increased rent.

However, we in Washington may not realize just how fortunate we are in the way of civic improvements. It is a safe bet that more new public buildings are going up here in the next few years—starts on them having already been made—than in any city twice Washington's size in the United States.

### CONSIDER BOSTON.

Take Boston, for instance. Up there they've built the custom house tower and a dental infirmary in the last ten years. That's about all, in the way of real, sure-enough public buildings. Down here, just as soon as they can be finished, we are going to have a whole flock of new buildings—a new art gallery, a national headquarters for arts and sciences, a new home for the United States Chamber of Commerce, and several others, as well as many statues to add to the present tremendous number.

Of course, there's a reason for all this. Washington is pre-eminently a national center, and it can draw on the entire nation as no other city can. Its streets may be badly paved, or not paved at all; its schools may be inadequate, and its teachers poorly paid; Congress and the director of the budget may dole out funds in so parsimonious a manner that Washington is placed perennially in the role of a grown-up Oliver Twist. But Washington, in spite of these drawbacks, is probably the most beautiful city in the United States; it has a wonderful group of public and semi-public buildings; and is constantly adding to the number.

Sometimes Washingtonians think that slow progress is being made in the execution of the McMillan plan for beautifying the city. The progress perhaps is slow, from year to year, but some really wonderful strides have been taken in the last ten years. The most conspicuous betterment in that time, of course, is the Lincoln Memorial, but that would be something for most cities to crow over for a decade. Here we accept it almost as a matter of course.

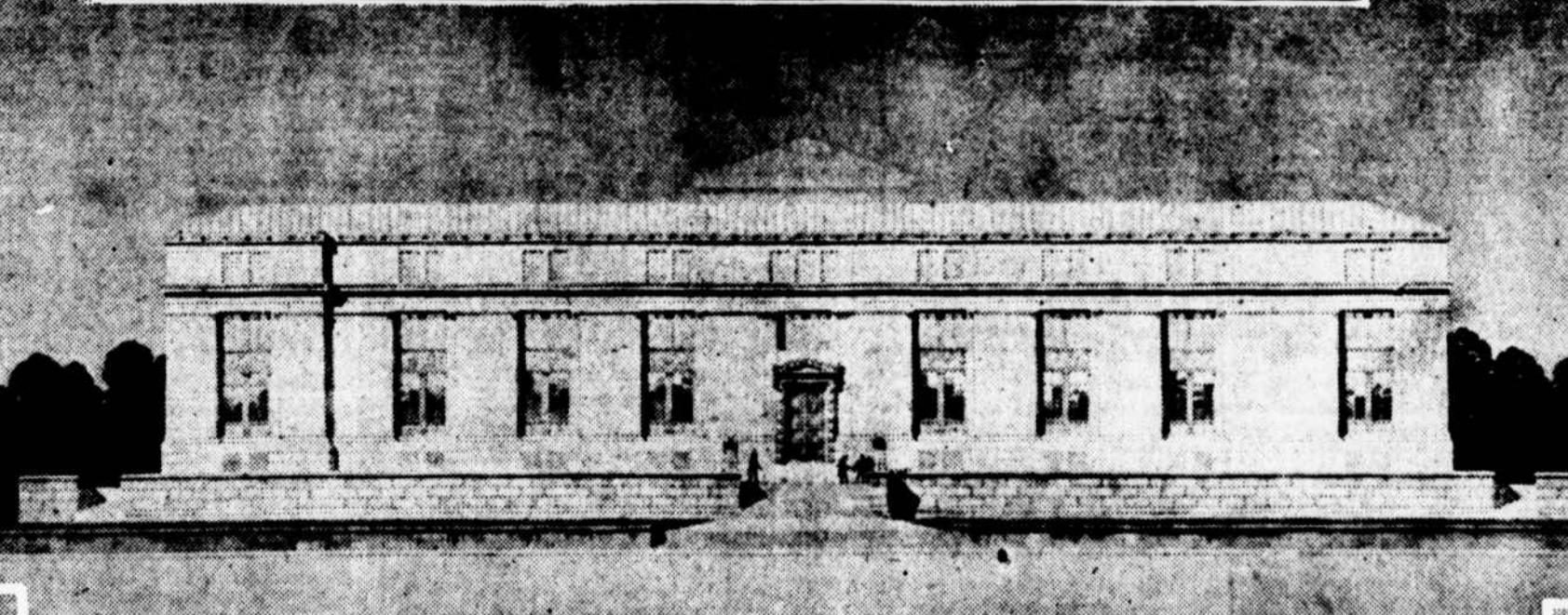
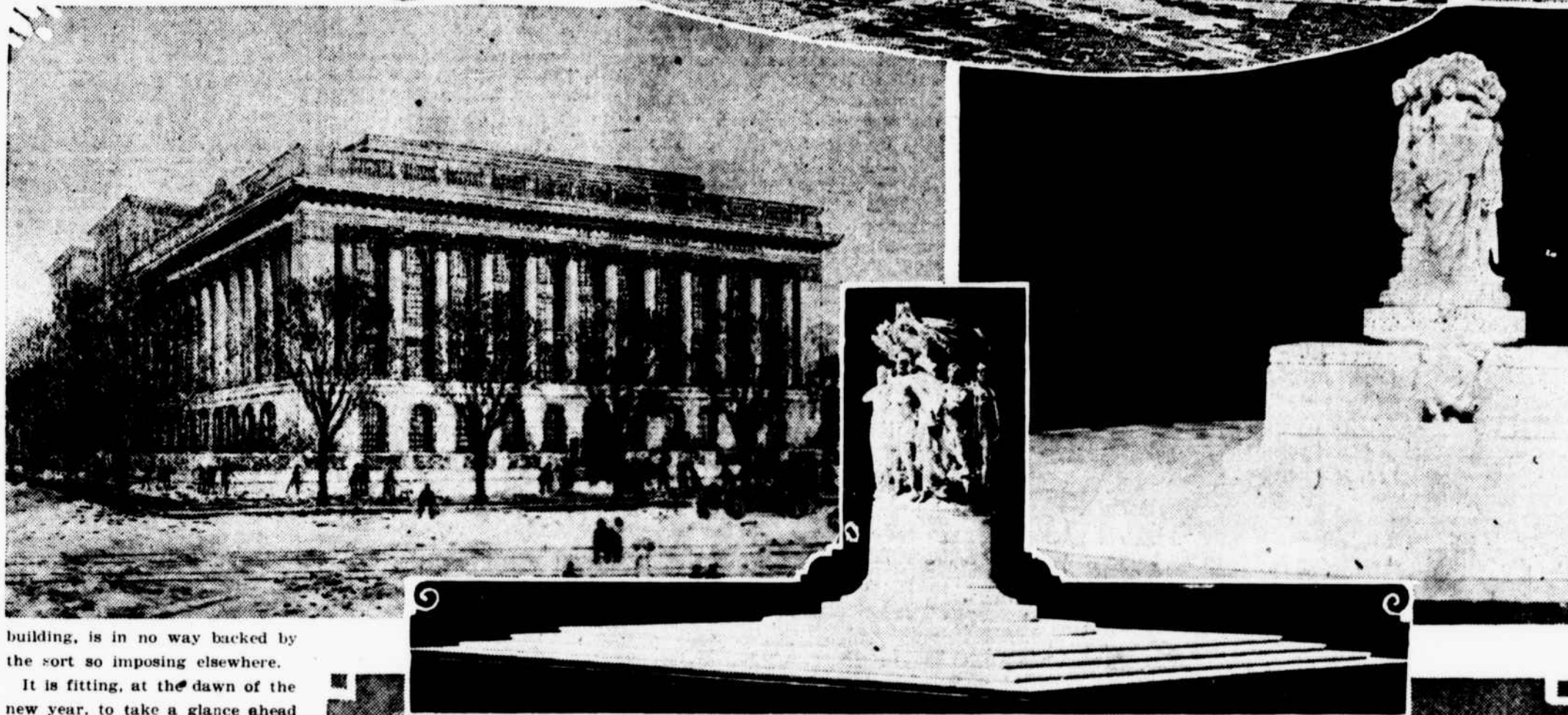
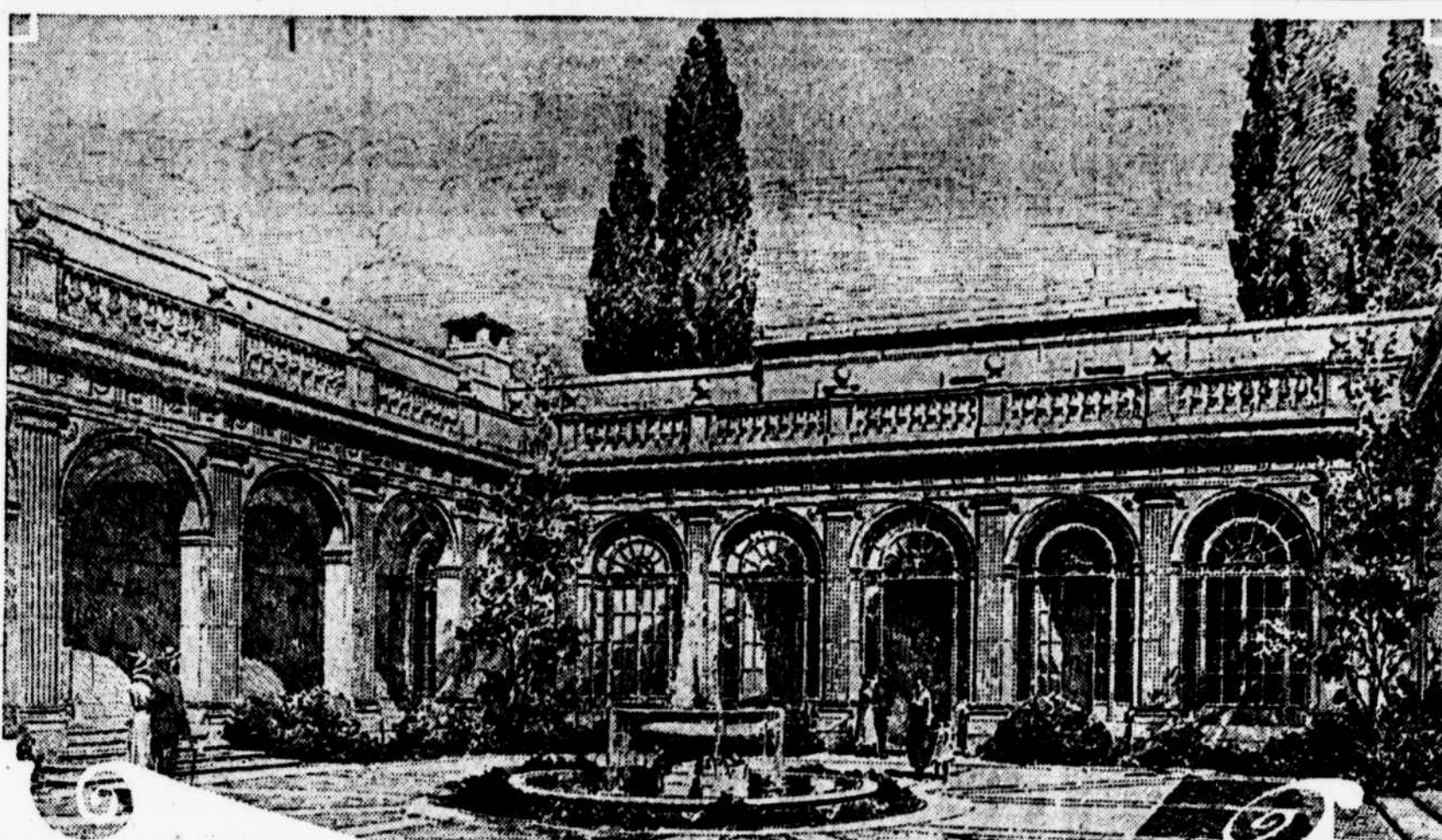
### Blue Everybody's Favorite Color?

BLUE is the favorite color of both men and women according to Dr. Thaddeus L. Bolton, professor of psychology at Temple University, who has made a research study of colors.

### Sticks to Babies and New Husband

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Dec. 30. MRS. OSCAR E. CHORMICLE was forced to choose between her first husband and her second husband and two babies. She took the babies and her present husband, Oscar E. Chormicle, whom she married here after William L. Fisher, the husband, had been gone two years and had been given up for dead. Fisher came back recently.

TOP, courtyard of the Freer Art Gallery; center, left to right, new building of the United States Chamber of Commerce, Meade Memorial, and Ericsson Memorial. Below, National Academy of Sciences building.



building, is in no way backed by the sort so imposing elsewhere.

It is fitting, at the dawn of the new year, to take a glance ahead at what Washington will become. Not a long look—merely a peep into the immediate future. One might go into the great plan for an aquatic garden out by the lily ponds in the northeast; one might discuss the park development projects as a whole, some of them, at least, rather fantastic. But a great deal is in immediate prospect; work is already underway, or nearing completion on a number of these projects.

The new building of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States will be located at Connecticut avenue and H streets. The site is spacious and convenient, and work has been under way for several months. This building will house all the activities of the chamber, and it will be ready almost before we know it. It will add much to the attractiveness of Lafayette Square, already one of the beauty spots of Washington, and a park with a charm and distinction all its own.

Then there is the Washington Auditorium, which will be completed with the next few months. This gigantic enterprise,

like the Chamber of Commerce the Federal Government; it is, indeed, a purely local undertaking, sponsored by business men who want to give Washington the facilities it needs for holding great conventions. Its site, near the new Interior De-

partment building, is almost in the heart of Governmental activities and readily accessible to the business section.

### FREER OPENING SOON.

The Freer Gallery of Art is practically completed and announcement of the date of opening may be expected shortly. It has been under consideration for several years. It stands south of the Mall, near the Smithsonian Institution, and will probably be of greater general interest than either of the other structures mentioned, since it will house the

Freer Gallery, founded by Charles L. Freer and presented by him to the nation. This is one unit of the National Gallery of Art, administered by the Smithsonian Institution.

The building is located according to a comprehensive scheme of small objects, therefore the exhibition space on the walls is kept low. Among the works to be housed in this gallery are 60 oil paintings, 35 pastels, 45 water colors, 100 drawings and 700 etchings and lithographs by Whistler; two studies cast in bronze by St. Gaudens, originally projected for the entrance to the Boston public library; more than 1,000 Chinese paintings, 135 Japanese screens, 400 Japanese pictures, 35 Chinese tapestries, 700 Chinese, Japanese and Korean bronzes, and great numbers of specimens of pottery, jade, etc.

### ARCHIVES IN PERIL.

The recent Treasury fires and the robbery of the mint in Denver have called attention to the need not only of better guarding the Treasury funds, but of an archives building in this city. It has been asserted on good authority that modern cracksmen could

### Volunteer in Campaign to Exterminate Pests Almost Gave His Life in the Venture.

for drinking purposes, members of the brigade, he said, would strain it through a gauze to separate the larvae from the water.

The work of cleaning up the oil fields was made even more difficult, he said, by the fact that it takes from six to twelve days for the fever to break out after a person has been bitten by a mosquito. During that time, he said, a man may travel from the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, where the fever is prevalent, to the Tuxpam or Tampico region and then spread the disease anew.

The principal weapons of the brigade, according to Gallagher, are water sprinklers, filled with petroleum, to be spread on stagnant waters.

Gallagher said that seven times, he was ill with black water malaria. He said every member of the brigade was ill at some time or another with malaria.

Where water was being used

"We feel that we have demonstrated the falsity of the idea."

Gallagher's brigade was mostly composed of Mexicans. He said: "They resented our telling them what to do. In quarantined areas we had to go into homes, search for stagnant water and sort of turn things topsy turvy for those people. Of course, they did not

like that. Two of our men were wounded by rifle bullets that greeted them when they attempted to enter homes.

"Many of the others were bitten by dogs. We had this trouble mainly with the ponies. The thinking Mexican realized what we were endeavoring to do and gave us every aid.

"One of our principal troubles were false alarms. There were many native doctors who would declare malaria cases to be yellow fever, so they could quarantine a town. When a town is under quarantine no one can leave it without getting a certificate from the doctor. The certificates cost five pesos each."

Gallagher said that it was necessary to inspect every home in the area every eight days, besides looking for stagnant water outdoors. The fact that the people depend solely upon rainwater for all uses made matters more difficult, for during the dry spell, he said, they often left their standing in containers for weeks at a time.

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## AMERICAN EXPERT DESCRIBES PERIL OF WAR ON MEXICAN MOSQUITOES

How a Handful of Men Rid the Tuxpam Oil Regions of the Yellow Fever Plague.

THAT the life of a sanitation expert is no less dangerous than that of a soldier at the front is the assertion of John A. Gallagher, recently returned to New York from Mexico, where he and a handful of Americans rid the Tuxpam oil regions of the yellow fever plague.

Gallagher is a veteran of the American punitive expedition into Mexico and the world war. During the latter he was a member of the First Division's Sixth Field Artillery and was cited for bravery.

Gallagher yesterday told how his party overcame a variety of obstacles, finally winning victory, but not before one of the dread diseases which he fought had scored upon him seven times, finally leaving him in such a weakened condition that he was forced to return home. He said: "In August of 1920 I was discharged from the army. I went

to Mexico for the Texas Oil Company as plumbing and sanitation supervisor. Soon after my arrival there an epidemic of yellow fever broke out in the oil regions and J. A. La Prince, senior sanitation engineer of the United States Public Health Service, organized a commission to rid the district of mosquitoes and use other sanitary methods to fight the pestilence.

### VOLUNTEERED FOR WORK.

"A few other Americans and myself volunteered for the work. We worked under the Associated Oil Managers. I was made chief sanitary inspector of the Tampico area.

"The commission had been at work but six months when the oil managers shut down the oil fields. They found they could not sell their oil in the United States at a profit by reason of the enormous tax that the Mexican government placed on exportation.

"The work of the commission did not cease, however, as we were taken over by the Rockefeller Foundation. Dr. Emmett I. Vaughn, who directs the work of the Foundation in Central America, came

up, looked things over and continued the work.

"At that time there was an outbreak in the Tuxpam region and I was sent there in charge of the work. I was made chief sanitary inspector of the Tuxpam and Papantia areas. The work was completed in October of 1921, and I resigned from the Rockefeller Foundation to enter the hotel business at Puerto de Mexico, selling out and starting back for the States about two months ago."

Gallagher displayed numerous records he had kept of his work in Mexico. Among his papers was a clipping from the Tampico Tribune, telling of an interesting sacrifice made by him and two other Americans in the interest of science.

It had been the popular conception, according to the article, that a man could go into an infected town between the hours of 10 o'clock in the morning and 2 o'clock in the afternoon and not be bitten by an infected mosquito. This mistaken idea, according to Gallagher, had its foundation in France, and many countries base

their quarantine regulations on the assumption that it is true.

Two large cages were constructed, one of cheesecloth and the other of fine screening. Into these were put a number of yellow fever mosquitoes hatched by J. A. Corrigan, a member of the commission. Gallagher, Corrigan and La Prince shortly before 11 o'clock entered the cages and allowed the pests to feast on their bare legs and arms.

The article declared that Gallagher was bitten twenty-six times on the left leg. The cages were then sealed. Two days later they re-entered the cage. They were in it but a short time when the pests again began to feast on their limbs. Mr. La Prince is quoted as saying:

"We feel that we have demonstrated the falsity of the idea."

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### Preacher Passes Hat On Rotarian

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19. THE Rev. W. K. Guthrie, D.D., outdid the blind man when hat in hand, he paraded the lobby of the Palace Hotel and took a collection.

The money was not for himself but for the Travelers' Aid. Guthrie had just explained to his fellow Rotarians at luncheon that the wealthy directors of the aid society had levied an assessment of \$100 on each member in order to clear up the finances in anticipation of the Community Chest plan.

Honey, Age 60, Weds  
Widow Honey, Age 7

MITCHELL, Ontario, Dec. 3. William Honey buzzed over home of Mrs. Ada Honey, a widow, and by droning the old story, prevailed upon her to marry him.

Honey is more than sixty and Mrs. Honey is seventy. After a short honeymoon will reside here.